

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Highway
Commission of Virginia, held in
Richmond, July 21, 1942.

At 9:00 A. M. on Tuesday, July 21st, the newly appointed Highway Commission met in the Central Highway Office Building, Richmond, Virginia. Present - Messrs. J. A. Anderson, Chairman, E. P. Barrow, Geo. P. DeHardit, Emmett H. Poindexter, S. W. Rawls, A. D. Starling, J. B. Wampler and J. F. Wyszor, all properly qualified to serve. Mr. Gilpin was absent, being in the service of the United States Air Corps.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

All members were introduced by the Chairman.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. Wyszor, that the Commission appoint Mr. S. W. Rawls secretary. Motion carried.

A supplementary Bulletin for July was presented to the Members of the Commission. The Commissioner went through the Bulletin and explained some of the items which have to do with the working of the Department.

Each Member was presented with data thought to be useful to them while serving on the Commission.

Mr. Wyszor made a few remarks as to the responsibility of the Commission as a whole. He stated that although the State was divided into districts with a representative in each district that the Commission functioned as a unit, its biggest problem being to gain and hold the confidence of the public. He felt that the members offered an avenue of approach and in acting as a unit it did not place the Commissioner in the position of making decisions that the Commission as a body is responsible for. Particular reference was made to right of way problems. He expressed the belief that the Commission members could be of special assistance in securing rights of way and creating the proper sentiment.

Moved by Mr. Wyszor, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the minutes of the June 16th meeting be approved. Motion carried.

A message from Mr. Gilpin was given to the Commission in which he extended his best wishes and his hopes of being present at the next meeting.

Tuesday, September 15th was tentatively set for the next Commission meeting.

Sample expense accounts were given to the new members by the Chairman with the hope that they would be of assistance to them. This subject was discussed at some length. It was agreed that stamps, telephone calls, traveling, and per diem rates, where incidental to their duties as members of the Highway Commission, were properly chargeable to expenses.

The Chairman expressed the thought that it would be a very good idea for the new members to visit the counties in their respective districts and where possible to meet the Boards of Supervisors inasmuch as the Boards are closely connected with the Secondary System. Expenses incident to these trips are to be included in expense accounts.

Due to the rationing of gasoline and tires, it was suggested by Mr. Rawls that the members contact the District and Resident Engineers and make the trips with these Engineers through the various counties. The problems of the Department would then be more easily understood.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, That, whereas, it was necessary for the Commonwealth to acquire a residue parcel of land from the Heirs of Ruth Anne Wright on account of Project 1093-K of the Blue Ridge Parkway, and which is not necessary for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the conveyance of the said residue parcel containing 40.0 acres, more or less, of land to the United States of America to become a part of the Forest lands, at the rate of \$4.87 per acre, is hereby approved, and the Chairman of the State Highway Commission is directed to execute in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia general warranty deed making conveyance of the said residue parcel to the United States of America, in accordance with Chapter 77-E, Acts of the General Assembly of 1942. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, That, whereas, it was necessary for the Commonwealth to acquire two (2) certain residue parcels of land on account of Project 1071-H of the Blue Ridge Parkway, and which are not necessary for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the conveyance of these residue parcels to the United States of America to become a part of the Forest lands, at the rates of \$6.55 per acre for 45.87 acres and \$6.40 per acre for 46.99 acres contained in the said tracts, is hereby approved, and the Chairman of the State Highway Commission is directed to execute in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia general warranty deed or deeds making conveyance of the aforesaid lands to the United States of America, in accordance with Chapter 77-E, Acts of the General Assembly of 1942. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7, 1940, that since the parcel of land acquired from E. Z. Darnell and Clyde Darnell lying outside of and adjacent to the right of way for Route 23, Project 428-BR1, in Scott County, is not necessary for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the sale of this parcel of land, containing approximately 0.30 acre, to E. H. McConnell and C. W. Kels is approved; and the Chairman is hereby directed to execute, in the name of the Commonwealth, special warranty deed making conveyance of this parcel of land to the said parties in exchange for a consideration of \$750.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7, 1940, that since it will not be necessary to retain that section of the Old Osborne Turnpike lying outside of the right of way for relocated Route 146, Project 1221-D, East of the E. C. L. Richmond, in Henrico County, between Stations 52+00 and 62+00, for the uses of the State Highway System, nor for the benefit of any other party or parties, as certified by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission; the conveyance of the land in this old road to W. J. Burice in exchange for right of way for relocation of Route 146 through his property, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby directed to execute, in the name of the Commonwealth, quit-claim deed to said W. J. Burice. This resolution repeals and rescinds the resolution of the Commission of June 16, 1942, covering this parcel of land. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that permit No. 11662, Route 220, Harry County, issued January 23rd to J. G. Covington, RFD, Ridgeway, Virginia, be cancelled as requested. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that permit No. 21687 S, Route 606, Hanover County, issued December 12, 1941 to the Virginia Electric & Power Co., Richmond, Virginia, be cancelled as requested. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that permit No. 841 S, Route 651, Norfolk County, issued February 16th to the Virginia Electric & Power Co., Norfolk, Virginia, be cancelled as requested. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that permit No. 5201, Route 311, Craig County, issued January 27, 1941, to J. F. Humphreys, Paint Bank, Virginia, be cancelled as requested. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that permit No. 7858, Route 60, Alleghany County, issued October 14, 1941, to the Jefferson National Forest, Roanoke, Virginia, be cancelled as requested. Motion carried.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the Commission confirm award of contract to R. K. Williams, Richmond, Va., and Perkins-Barnes Construction Co., Inc., Blackstone, Va., for the grading and drainage on Project FS 1414-A, Flight Strip in Essex County, at a net bid of \$158,851.00; and 10% additional be set aside for engineering and additional work, making a total of approximately \$174,736.10. Motion carried.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the Commission confirm award of contract to Sam Finley, Inc., and Perkins-Barnes Construction Co., Inc., for the surfacing of Project FS 1414-A (1), Flight Strip near Tappahannock, at their bid of \$70,943.82, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$7,743.00 for 1,111 tons additional Plant Mix Material, making a total of approximately \$85,700.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission confirm award of contract for the construction of Project DA-WR 1288 M2,F,E, Routes 167, 168 and 278, 0.04 Mi. S. NCL Hampton-0.50 Mi. N. NCL Hampton and Quins Store- S. W. Branch Hack River, to the low bidder, R. W. Mitchell, Hilton Village, Va., at his bid of \$84,937.84, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, \$2,180.00 for work by the Railroad and \$16,000.00 for Right of Way, making a total of approximately \$111,600.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission confirm award of contract for the construction of Project DA-WR 1277 A, Route 361, ECL Norfolk- 3.1 Mi. W. Intersection Route 60 (Sewall's Point Road) to the low bidder, R. K. Williams, Richmond, Va., at his bid of \$154,522.55, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$25,000.00 for surface treatment, making a total of approximately \$194,900.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission confirm award of contract for the construction of Project DA-NR 358 ARL; 113 AW, Route 236, WCL Alexandria - 0.05 Mi. E. of Holmes Run, to the low bidder, Gosson and Gruman Co., (Corp.) Washington, D. C., at their bid of \$264,781.78, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, \$42,000.00 for Right of Way and \$287.00 for State Forces, making a total of approximately \$333,500.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission confirm award of contract for the construction of Project DA-NR 1284-A2-B6, Route 336, 0.18 Mi. E. Intersection Route 170- 1.9 Mi. E. Route 170, to the low bidder, W. H. Scott, Franklin, Va., at his bid of \$379,521.15, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$24,000.00 for Right of Way, making a total of approximately \$441,400.00 chargeable to this project; to be financed 75% by Federal Aid Access Roads money and 25% by State funds, according to agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wycor, seconded by Mr. Wampler that the permits issued from June 16 to July 21, inclusive, be approved as recorded in the Auditing Division. Motion carried.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that the Commission confirm award of contract for insurance on automobiles and trucks for the year beginning July 1, 1942, to the Harleysville Mutual Casualty Company at their bid received June 22, 1942. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wycor, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the Commission confirm the cancellation of contract on Project S 55 BRL, EL, Route 58, 1.6 Mi. E. EGL Stuart- 0.5 Mi. E. EGL Stuart, due to inability to secure materials, and the return of guarantee check to W.E.Graham and Sons. Motion carried.

The Commissioner gave the following figures to the Members on the comparison of revenues:

Revenues for June 1941	\$2,300,690.36	
Revenues for June 1942	1,867,382.96	Reduction 18.8%
Anticipated Revenues for year ending June 30, 1942	33,119,000.00	
Actual collections (gross) year ending June 30, 1942	33,477,549.88	1% increase

Number on payroll for June 1942 compared with numbers for May 1942 and June 1941; also how the payroll amounts for the three periods compare.

June 1941	10,239	\$693,251.86
May 1942	8,725	719,137.83
June 1942	8,573	666,008.23

1,666 fewer in June 1942 than in June 1941- 16.3% less.

Due to the reduction in revenue and the shortage of manpower the Department has found it necessary to combine some of the residences.

The Commissioner discussed the problem of saving work until after the war. He explained the necessity for keeping the convict camps at work and this the Department is trying to do. The amount of revenues, furnished by the Comptroller's office, were discussed at length as well as the reduction in personnel.

General Anderson referred to the personnel of the Department bringing out the fact that the Commissioner is held strictly responsible for personnel problems. He further stated that he was impressed with the fact that the Department was free of politics and he hoped to keep it that way. He advised the Members that if at any time they had anything to take up concerning the organization he would be glad to have them take it up with him, and he would give any matter of interest to a Member of the Commission his personal attention.

The effect of vehicle and tire rationing upon highway traffic was presented to the Members giving the percent of change by Districts for 1942 as compared with 1941. For the State as a whole for the month of June the decline was 29.29% from June of last year.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the \$500.00 per mile construction fund be allotted to the City of Hopewell for the year 1941-1942, to be used on the street leading to the proposed grade crossing of the Norfolk and Western Railway. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the \$500.00 per mile construction fund be allotted to the City of Waynesboro for the year 1942-1943 to apply on work on Route 250 already completed. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Harrow, that the \$500.00 per mile construction fund be allotted to the City of Suffolk for the year 1942-1943 to be applied on the proposed realignment and improvement to Caroline Avenue, Route 32, according to agreement with Suffolk. Motion carried.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the request of the City of Newport News for the 1943-1944 \$500.00 per mile construction fund be held in abeyance until a more accurate report is available on what the revenue will be for 1943-1944. Motion carried;

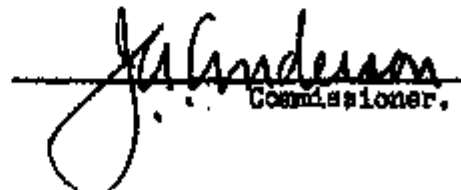
The Chairman called on each member for any remarks they might wish to make and every one expressed the desire and effort to cooperate one hundred percent for the continued success of the Highway Department and in doing so expected to derive much pleasure.

At 11:30 the employees and officials in the Central Office Building assembled in the auditorium. Governor Colgate W. Darden, Jr., came over and joined the new Commission and they adjourned the meeting and joined the assembly. The Governor gave a short and forceful talk which was greatly appreciated.

Each member of the Commission was requested to send in at his convenience a biography for the files and records of the Commission.

The Commission adjourned at twelve o'clock noon, subject to the call of the Commissioner.

Approved-


Commissioner.

Attested-


Secretary.